

B139

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

v.

JOSHUA BUICE

Criminal No. 21-155
(18 U.S.C. § 371)
[UNDER SEAL]

INDICTMENT

COUNT ONE

FILED

APR 13 2021

The grand jury charges:

CLERK U.S. DISTRICT COURT
WEST. DIST. OF PENNSYLVANIA
THE CONSPIRACY AND ITS OBJECTS

1. From in and around April 2019, and continuing thereafter until in and around January 2020, in the Western District of Pennsylvania and elsewhere, the defendant, JOSHUA BUICE, knowingly and willfully did conspire, combine, confederate and agree with other persons both known and unknown to the grand jury, to commit offenses against the United States, that is:

- a. Theft of Mail, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1708;
- b. Making, Uttering, and Possessing a Forged Security, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 513(a); and,
- c. Bank Fraud, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1344(1).

MANNER AND MEANS OF THE CONSPIRACY

2. It was a part of the conspiracy that the defendant, JOSHUA BUICE, and other individuals known to the grand jury, agreed to steal mail matter from the United States mail, mail receptacles, and from authorized mail depositories in the Western District of Pennsylvania and elsewhere, for the purpose of stealing legitimate checks contained in the mail.

3. It was further part of the conspiracy that the legitimate checks were drawn on accounts of businesses operating in and the activities of which affect interstate commerce.

4. It was further part of the conspiracy that the legitimate checks were drawn at accounts of financial institutions then insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation including but not limited to Wells Fargo Bank, N.A., JP Morgan Chase Bank, N.A., and PNC Bank N.A.

5. It was further part of the conspiracy that the “payee” on the legitimate checks was altered with the intent to deceive the entities accepting the altered checks.

6. It was further part of the conspiracy that individuals known and the unknown to the grand jury, recruited other individuals with identification to cash the fraudulent checks.

OVERT ACTS

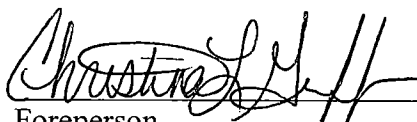
7. In furtherance of the conspiracy, and to effect the objects of the conspiracy, the defendant, JOSHUA BUICE, with other persons both known and unknown to the grand jury, did commit and cause to be committed, the following overt acts, among others, in the Western District of Pennsylvania and elsewhere:


a. On or about June 20, 2019, the defendant, JOSHUA BUICE, received text messages from an individual known to the grand jury which contained numerous pictures of checks payable to various individuals drawn on accounts with federally insured financial institutions; and,

b. On or about July 2, 2019, the defendant, JOSHUA BUICE, possessed approximately 12 checks drawn on accounts of federally insured financial institutions associated with businesses located in the Western District of Pennsylvania, and elsewhere, businesses known to the grand jury as GCI, EHI, and TCC.

In violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 371.

A True Bill,


Foreperson


STEPHEN R. KAUFMAN
Acting United States Attorney
PA ID No. 42108